## Exhibit 1

# **Summary of the Legacy Project Regional Conservation Workshops**

# Initial Brainstorming Sessions: Exploring Opportunities, Challenges and Risks

The following is a condensed summary of the key themes and interesting observations from the initial brainstorming sessions of the nine "Spotlight on Conservation" workshops. We have organized the information into Challenges/Risks and Opportunities that were *common* to many workshops; and Challenges/Risks and Opportunities that were *unique* to a region or unique to a "type" of region (such as rural v. more urbanized).

At each workshop, we held a 1-hour brainstorming session with the overall workshop group. The purposes of these sessions were:

- Provide an exercise to get people interacting and thinking about their region in broad terms
- Determine if there were common themes across regions, and identify unique aspects of each region; and
- Set the stage for the discussions that followed on the second day of the workshops.

# CHALLENGES AND RISKS THAT WERE COMMON TO MANY WORKSHOPS/REGIONS

- 1. Fragmentation and loss of agricultural land and other working landscapes; need for these lands to be retained; generational turnover of working lands; long-term economic viability of working landscapes
- 2. Population growth pressure and low density urban sprawl taking away valuable resource and conservation lands
- 3. Lack of unified, comprehensive planning that connects statewide, regional and local levels; multiple agencies with conflicting goals; need for better collaboration between state agencies and local governments
- 4. Lack of affordable housing
- 5. Lack of funds at all levels and in particular lack of local funding under local control and accountability
- 6. Invasive species impacting native resources
- 7. Limited money for monitoring resource conditions
- 8. Limited funding and inadequate management practices for public lands once they are conserved
- 9. Poor inter-agency coordination in terms of regulatory requirements, land conservation priorities
- 10. Fragmentation of habitats and lack of adequate corridors connecting habitat areas (mentioned less in the North Coast and other rural regions)
- 11. High demands on available water resources making it difficult to devote to ecosystem processes
- 12. Various types of air and water pollution impacting conserved resources
- 13. Lack of sound, scientific data and publicly-accessible data and mapping systems

- 14. Need for education on resource conservation (especially the younger generation), need to get people working together
- 15. Outdated local county general plans or general plans that do not reflect adequate protection of resources

### CHALLENGES AND RISKS THAT WERE UNIQUE TO ONE OR SEVERAL REGIONS

- 1. Impact of environmental regulations conflicting and costly compliance burden (common to several rural regions such as the North Coast and San Joaquin Valley)
- 2. Lack of political power, political representation and reduced share of funding (common to several rural regions)
- 3. Environmental and hazard issues at the urban/wildland fringe (common to the Bay Area, Central Coast and South Coast)
- 4. Extremely high cost of land for conservation (Bay Area, Central and South coasts)
- 5. Lack of organizational capability, non-profits and others organized for conservation efforts (San Joaquin Valley)
- 6. Anti-government and anti-cooperation mentality (North Coast)
- 7. Active natural disasters (North Coast and Central Coast)
- 8. Limited economic base and lack of diversity in the economy (North Coast and Sacramento Valley)
- 9. Collapse of agricultural industries, infrastructure, global competitiveness, prices, etc. (Sacramento Valley)
- 10. Increase in poverty and limited access to open space and resources (south coast)
- 11. Urbanites lack of understanding of farm economy and working landscapes (San Joaquin Valley, North Coast, Sacramento Valley)
- 12. Need to engage second homeowner population in the Sierra
- 13. New populations moving in from urban areas without knowledge of and appreciation of the resource values of the Sierra

#### OPPORTUNITIES COMMON TO MANY WORKSHOPS/REGIONS

- 1. Public/private partnerships and joint funding efforts are working
- 2. Public education through existing and emerging conservation projects build support
- 3. Growing exchange of information/data and increasing opportunities to collaborate
- 4. Strong conservation ethic amongst many local citizens
- 5. Watershed and river basin planning and restoration projects have traction
- 6. Private land owners are willing to increase stewardship efforts if there are adequate incentives and/or reduced regulatory burden
- 7. "Smart growth" and related local land use planning efforts are critically needed; there are not enough good models to draw from
- 8. Opportunities to expand partnerships between agencies, local government, non-profits and others for conservation
- 9. Highly politicized and polarized battles do not seem to be working; collaborative efforts may
- 10. Need for conservation solutions that solve economic as well as environmental problems
- 11. Opportunity for eco-tourism and for local product "branding" to encourage preservation efforts

### OPPORTUNITIES UNIQUE TO ONE OR SEVERAL REGIONS

- 1. Strong citizen support and organizational capacity for conservation and open space protection (Bay Area)
- 2. Large scale collaborations already working at the watershed level such as the Santa Ana River Park and San Gabriel River (South Coast)
- 3. Many local and use planning lessons to be learned from other regions; opportunities for planned growth linked to transportation, etc. (Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley)
- 4. Significant money available and opportunities for agricultural conservation easements and wildlife friendly farming (Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley)
- 5. Wealth of abundant natural resources and undeveloped land, low population pressure, strong interest in balancing conservation and economic development/growth (North Coast, Sierra)
- 6. Significant amounts of conservation planning and identification of valuable resources, but unsure about implementation in the areas where NCCPs and many HCPs have been or are being done (San Diego, desert)
- 7. Opportunities to use military lands for buffering land uses, mitigation or restoration areas (San Diego, desert)
- 8. Many high quality, in tact ecosystems; good plans in place, supported by restrictions (Central Coast, Sierra)
- 9. Well-organized inter-agency land management structure (e.g. Desert Managers Group; in the desert region)
- 10. Opportunities to expand recreational uses to protect and fund conservation (desert, North Coast, Sierra)
- 11. Use reclaimed water, stormwater, created wetlands and other creative water sources and measures for water quality protection, conservation, groundwater recharge, etc. (South Coast)
- 12. Engage schools and environmental groups to improve outdoor education and use the conserved lands for educational purposes (south coast)
- 13. Avoid an Endangered Species Act "train wreck" by being pro-active about habitat conservation now (San Joaquin Valley, Sierra)
- 14. Opportunity for a mountains to sea transect of conserved lands (Central Coast, Los Padres to the ocean)
- 15. Ability to use water supply and watershed function as financial leverage for conservation and other improvements in the Sierra
- 16. There is political, financial and partnership advantages to thinking of the Sierra as a single region
- 17. Idea of a Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- 18. Using grazing as a means of controlling invasive species in the Sierra foothills